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October 9, 1919
Circular Letter No. 40

To Supervisors of Schools.

Ladies and Gentlemen:-

PROVISIONAL LICENSES

Your attention is hereby called to the following transcription of an Act entitled "To Authorize the Commissioner of Education to Issue Temporary Licenses to Certain Persons", approved by the L egislature, February 19, 1918:

> "Section 1.-- That whenever because of any emergency it is impossible to secure licensed teachers of any class to fill existing vacancies in the public schools, the Commissioner of Education, on the recommendation of any School Board of Porto Rico, is hereby authorized to grant temporary licenses, without previous examination, to those persons who possess the other legal requirements, if, in the judgement of the Commissioner such persons possess the necessary scholastic training to meet the requirements of the positions to be filled, provided that no temporary license shall b be issued to any person who has not completed the elementary school course.
>
> " Section 2.-- That no temporary license shall be valid for a greater period than one year, nor shall any license of this class be renewed."

Since we still have 23 rural schools and 26 graded schools vacant, in spite of the fact that are many persons holding a teacher's license who have not been contracted for a school position, you are hereby instructed to advise the School Board of your respective districts to recommend rural teachers of a high standing (Classification not lower than "G") who are capable of filling any existing vacancies for which it has not been possible to secure teachers with regular licenses, by the granting of a provisional license.

Recently a number of rural teachers have informed the Department that they have not been favored with any answer tho they have applied to the school boards of all municipalities where vacancies exist, according to our records.

A high school graduate or any other person who has completed the work of the tenth grade, with the highest possible preparation, and who in your opinion is a good candidate, may be recommended for a provisional license as rural teacher to fill any existing vacancy for which a teacher with a regular license has not been found.

In no instance shall a provisional license be issued for the purpose of filling a graded school if this would result in leaving a vacant rural school.

REASONS FOR VACANT SCHOOLS

Report at once the kind and number of schools vacant in your respective districts. State specifically the reason for vacancies in each case: lack of teachers, lack of school building, lack of equipment for buildings, or any other cause.

Respectfully,

(Signed) P. G. MILLER

Commissioner of Education.

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